

of a visionary strategic plan that moved UWTC to a results-oriented "impact" model that embraces nontraditional community partners. UWTC and its partners help 300,000 people annually throughout Tarrant County.

Tim McKinney's leadership as a fundraising professional led UWTC through transformational change. During his tenure, UWTC's strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency earned the organization a top 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for five consecutive years. This recognition places UWTC among the top 6 percent of charities evaluated by Charity Navigator who have received at least 5 consecutive 4-star ratings. In addition, under his leadership, UWTC's fundraising placed it among the top 4 percent of all United Ways in America.

In addition to his work at UWTC, Tim McKinney served and continues to serve on the boards of several organizations. As the Board Chair of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT), he was active in its fundraising efforts and in developing the new BRIT building and campus. He also served on the JWest Foundation Board and helped to establish the James L. West Presbyterian Special Care Center.

Through his work in the Tarrant County community, Tim McKinney has earned a reputation as a highly ethical and trustworthy professional who values transparency, honesty, and innovation.

I honor Mr. McKinney's years of dedicated service to the Tarrant County community, and congratulate him on his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present on the House floor because my flight was cancelled due to inclement weather. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 286, and yea on Roll Call No. 287.

SAMANTHA MOLINA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha Molina for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Samantha Molina is a student at Arvada K-8 School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Molina is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samantha Molina for winning the Arvada

Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on Roll Call No. 286 and No. 287.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 286, and YEA on Roll Call No. 287.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DELAWARE & LEHIGH NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR'S DESIGNATION AS A SMITHSONIAN AFFILIATE

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor as it becomes America's first National Heritage Area to receive a partnership designation from the Smithsonian Institution. The D&L, as we in eastern Pennsylvania call it, preserves the historic canal that carried anthracite and iron from Wilkes-Barre to Philadelphia. It is one of three National Heritage Areas in my congressional district, and it runs through three of the 17th District's counties. I am proud to support areas like the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor by co-sponsoring the National Heritage Area Authorization Act.

A National Heritage Area is a site designated by Congress for the purposes of preserving history and encouraging an appreciation of the site. It is a place where natural, scenic, cultural, and historic resources combine to offer a landscape of stories celebrating our unique journey and status as a region. A National Heritage Area is a lived-in landscape and is administered by a state government, non-profit, or private corporation rather than the National Park Service. It is a place where stewards collaborate with residents to forge a way to make heritage relevant for local interests and needs. This community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development must be preserved and grown. These sites are essential to how we share who we were, who we are, and who we might become with the next generation.

The Smithsonian Institution was founded in 1846 and is the world's largest museum, education, and research complex. It has over 216 affiliates. This affiliation partnership for the D&L comes on the heels of its recent merger with the National Canal Museum in Easton, Pennsylvania. The affiliation partnership designation will raise the profile of the D&L and help it better connect to nature, recreation, and our nation's industrial heritage. As a Smithsonian affiliate, the D&L will reap the benefits of co-branding, professional development, and customized client service to facilitate exhibition and artifact borrowing needs.

Those who know me well know my passions for preserving history, natural resources, and outdoor recreation opportunities. With the D&L, these passions are one. It is my honor to share with the House the story of a place that so well engenders a love of nature and of history and that now includes its welcome into the Smithsonian family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes Tuesday, June 6, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes 286 and 287.

SABASTIAN MEADOWS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sabastian Meadows for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sabastian Meadows is a student at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sabastian Meadows is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sabastian Meadows for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, due to an unavoidable conflict, I missed the following votes on June 6. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 286, and yea on Roll Call No. 287.

INTRODUCTION OF PATIENT CHOICE AND QUALITY CARE ACT OF 2017

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, from sweeping changes to how care is delivered, to

the rise of personalized medicine, patients today have more treatment options when facing advanced illness than ever before. With these medical advances, the line between life and death can sometimes be blurred, which has changed the way we must talk about how we want to live and die.

Despite these enormous changes, confronting an advanced illness or the end of life remains one of the most difficult and challenging situations any family faces.

There is substantial evidence that suggests the care individuals want to receive at the end of life is not necessarily the type of care they do receive. Patients, in fact, often receive aggressive treatment that not only substantially shortens their length of life, but its quality. At other times, patients find the health care system instead undervalues the quality of their life, withholding treatments they would otherwise want to receive.

Issues surrounding the end of life and advanced illness management become even more important when looking at the rapidly aging population in the United States. In 2014, Americans ages 65 and older made up 15 percent of the total population; by 2060 that share is projected to grow to 24 percent.

A recent survey conducted by The Economist and the Kaiser Family Foundation found that the majority of U.S. adults say the government is not prepared to deal with the aging population. The same survey found that a large majority of Americans believe both that patients and their families should have a greater say in which treatment options they receive, and that most Americans don't believe they have enough control over their medical decisions at the end of life. This must change.

Individuals should have every opportunity to actively participate in making decisions about their health care throughout their lives and should receive care consistent with their values, goals, and informed preferences. Patients should feel empowered to make informed choices about the health care they want and to have those care decisions honored by their providers and family.

During passage of Affordable Care Act, I saw an opportunity to apply lessons learned in Oregon with its landmark comprehensive palliative care programs, which give patients more of a say about the medical treatment they want at the end of life. I worked to ensure that Congress included a payment for doctors to talk to patients and families about advance care planning in the Affordable Care Act. Unfortunately, this provision wasn't included in the final legislation due to a breakdown of the legislative process.

After years of advocacy, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services designed a benefit allowing doctors to receive reimbursement for voluntary advance care planning conversations with their patients. For the first time, Medicare will pay for these critical doctor-patient discussions in the same way it pays for any other medical service.

Yet our work to improve end-of-life care is far from over, and it is for these reasons that I am introducing the bipartisan, bicameral Patient Choice and Quality Care Act of 2017. This legislation will strengthen advanced illness care by establishing a new model of care delivery that to better manage advanced illness, improve quality of care, and enhance training, resources, and tools for providers, patients, and their families.

Ideally, health care should work in sync with social, psychological, and spiritual support as the end of life approaches. Care near the end of life must be patient-centered and family-oriented. This legislation is supported by patient advocates, physicians, nurses, and the faith community, who understand how improving care delivery for advanced illness fundamentally improves quality of care and quality of life. To that end, I ask my colleagues to join me and support this important legislation.

HONORING RYAN DANT'S COLLEGE GRADUATION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ryan Dant. Ryan's father Mark Dant retired just last year as Assistant Chief at the Carrollton, Texas Police Department. As a young boy, Ryan was diagnosed with a rare disease called Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS Type 1)—a disease so rare that it affects about 1 in 100,000 children.

Mr. Speaker, we recently observed National MPS Awareness Day on May 15.

At the time he was diagnosed, in the early 90s, there was no cure or even a treatment for MPS. Doctors told Ryan's parents—Jeanne and Mark—that he wouldn't make it to his 13th birthday.

Over time, the heartache of their son's diagnosis gave way to the steadfast perseverance that only a parent knows.

Scientist after scientist, through experimental treatments and research studies, Ryan's 13th birthday came and went.

Last Saturday, Jeanne and Mark Dant witnessed a miracle—their son Ryan, at age 29, received his college degree.

I congratulate Ryan on receiving his degree. His life's journey is an inspiration to us all.

SAMANTHA WARD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha (Sam) Ward for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Samantha Ward is a student at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Ward is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samantha Ward for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on June 6, 2017 on account of attending my son's graduation. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

YEA for rollcall vote 286

YEA for rollcall vote 287

THE RETIREMENT OF CRAIG SOUZA

HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to make special mention today of the retirement of Craig Souza, a gentleman who has contributed decades of service to North Carolina through his leadership in providing quality health care facilities throughout the state.

Craig has served as President and CEO of the North Carolina Health Care Facilities Association since 1977. He is a proud graduate of East Carolina University (ECU) and has the distinction of having served as chairman of the ECU Board of Trustees.

Mr. Souza has served in a number of leadership roles, including his service on the UNC Board of Governors, as past president of both the American Society of Health Care Association Executives and the Association Executives of North Carolina; and as a member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Institute of Medicine, the North Carolina Social Services Commission and the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators. He also served with distinction as deputy secretary of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources.

Throughout his career, Mr. Souza has carried out his service with integrity and dedication providing our state with valued leadership and counsel in every endeavor.

In his retirement, Craig plans to continue to enjoy spending time with family, traveling, playing golf, watching Carolina Panthers football, and cheering on his beloved ECU Pirates.

On behalf of the State of North Carolina, thank Craig for his years of commitment and service. I wish him the very best as he enters this next chapter in his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF KATHLEEN STROUD FOR HER WORK AND ADVOCACY ON SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Kathleen Stroud for her impactful leadership on social justice issues. Ms. Stroud has served Michigan with distinction in a variety of elected positions at the